

# BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS WITH THE ILO TOGETHER, TO CHANGE MILLIONS OF LIVES IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



International  
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## A POPULATION WITH LITTLE SOCIAL PROTECTION

The Kyrgyz Republic has been recognized as one of the poorest among the post-Soviet countries since independence.

Despite gradual economic growth, the Kyrgyz Republic faces significant challenges such as limited fiscal resources, a large informal economy, a non-comprehensive social security system, labour migration due to lack of employment opportunities with decent income levels, youth unemployment, urban-rural discrepancies and very limited social inclusion. Problems related to poverty underlie all these aspects. The government of the Kyrgyz Republic in recognition of the need to extend social protection has made it a key priority.

## BUILDING A SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

ILO's technical assistance on the social protection floor (SPF) in the Kyrgyz Republic started with awareness raising and capacity building for national stakeholders. In 2014, the ILO supported the development of the national Social Development Programme 2015-17, which aims to extend a nationally defined SPF.

An Assessment-based National Dialogue (ABND) process was launched in December 2014 to help develop a roadmap to implement the Social Development Programme. The first ABND was held in June 2015 at the initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development. The main findings were related to the existing social protection system, policy gaps, implementation obstacles and recommendations for establishing an SPF in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The second ABND was organized in February 2016 wherein a set of recommendations with four priorities was adopted. The meeting was attended by the Vice Prime Minister and other high-level representatives which

included ministers, vice ministers, chairpersons of funds and agencies, social partner organizations and UN agencies.



The ABND identified the following priorities:

- Increase the pension level;
- Increase the benefit to low-income families with children.
- Improve the social service system;
- Increase the level of the maternity benefit.

At the initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, scenarios on maternity protection were calculated and adopted by the ABND technical working group at the ABND costing workshop in June 2017:

- by 2022, (a) improve the coverage of formal sector workers, farmers and self-employed and (b) increase the benefit level according to inflation or up to KGZ 3,000;
- by 2030, (a) extend coverage to informal workers and (b) increase the benefit level up to the subsistence minimum;
- by 2040, (a) cover all women and (b) increase the benefit level up to 2/3rd of the average or previous wage.

In February 2015, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic issued the Social Development Programme for the period of 2015-17. The main objective of the Programme is

to ensure proper conditions for the lives and development of children and families from deprived backgrounds and provide them with services of adequate quality.

ILO Recommendation No. 202 was a guide to assess the social protection system and establishment of an SPF in the country.

- Vice Prime Minister Ms. Gulmira Kudaiberdieva



## FROM RIGHT TO REALITY WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Social protection is one of the key priority areas of the UNDAF in the Kyrgyz Republic. The national high-level roundtable identified older persons, poor children, pregnant women, and new mothers and their new-born children as the main target groups. With your support, we can extend social protection to them and improve the social service system to change their lives for the better.

You can support us to improve the social protection floor in the Kyrgyz Republic:

- Support the design of specific SPF schemes or the reform of existing schemes based on the ABND recommendations.

US\$ 600,000 for 2018-19

- Carry out promotional activities on maternity protection through legal analysis, capacity building and awareness raising to support the ratification of the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183).

US\$ 200,000 for 2018-22

- Support the development of the Social Development Programme after 2018 by revising the ABND and updating priorities.

US\$ 150,000 for 2018-20

- Improve the social insurance system for the extension of coverage and maintenance of financial sustainability with a long-term perspective.

US\$ 950,000 for 2018-25

As a donor, you receive regular reports on the progress made and have access to ongoing project activities and performance indicators.

To further discuss your objectives and the ways in which you can support stakeholders in the Kyrgyz Republic and improve millions of lives, you can contact:



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## LISTENING TO YOUR AMBITIONS